

CHRIST CHURCH

1772(?)

Believed to have been originally erected in the eighteenth century in a simple style characteristic of Protestant church architecture of the region this one story brick structure was remodeled in 1906 and is vaguely reminiscent of Victorian Romanesque architecture. The brick walls have been stuccoed over and the interior remodeled in the late Victorian style.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

CT-40

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Christ Church

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Broomes Island Road (Maryland Route 264)

CITY, TOWN

Port Republic

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

— VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY
Calvert

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☒ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☒ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Vestry of Christ Church

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #: JLB 3/38

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**☐ EXCELLENT☒ GOOD☐ FAIR☐ DETERIORATED☐ RUINS☐ UNEXPOSED**CHECK ONE**☐ UNALTERED☒ ALTERED**CHECK ONE**☒ ORIGINAL SITE☐ MOVED

DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Story of Old Christ Church, which was written by John R. Fleming and published by the Vestry of Christ Church, is an excellent publication which not only describes the church but gives a good deal of information about its history. That history appears to be well researched and a bibliography that includes many primary sources is printed along with early photos. Pages 22-28 are devoted to architectural history and one gets the impression from this section that the church has undergone many changes. There seems to be little doubt of a church here in the Seventeenth Century, although that building exists no longer. According to Fleming, that structure probably was a log building that was destroyed in 1731 by fire. It had been replaced by 1735 with a brick structure which oddly enough sufficed only thirty-five years. The Maryland General Assembly authorized a raising of tax money for a new church that is supposed to have been completed by 1772. According to the instructions of the General Assembly, this church was to be constructed using materials salvaged from the other building.

Although it is stated that the present structure has evolved out of this 1772 building, it is also pointed out that the condition of the church was "deplorable" by the end of the century and that it has seen several substantial changes. For example in 1838, there was "no" belfry and no porch or entrance on the west side, but there were covered brick porches on both the north and south sides. Since then doors became windows, partitions and rooms were added and much interior decoration was replaced during the seven "major" reconstructions which Fleming cites. He points out that an eighth major reconstruction took place in 1906 in which all four major walls were rebuilt; the end walls being completely removed. As much old material was reused as possible at least 20,000 new bricks were necessary.

It has been pointed out that from a stylistic point of view, the present building exhibits a horizontal emphasis or wideness of plan that is more characteristic of the Nineteenth Century than of the late Georgian Era. It is possible that the building was made wider in 1906 when the walls were rebuilt. Fleming points out that was during this renovation that the corner abutments were added and that concrete foundations were added on "all four walls."

It would seem from this information that one important value of the present structure is its ability to demonstrate the changing and growing needs of a congregation which has existed for over three hundred years. The present building exhibits some fine Victorian details, which should be preserved and any restoration seeking a late Georgian appearance should seriously consider the real possibility that most of the Georgian buildings may have been destroyed.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE**PERIOD****AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 100-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES**BUILDER/ARCHITECT****STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

See "Story of Christ Church" pamphlet in source files.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATAACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 46.6 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Wayne L. Nield, II
 Historic Sites Survey
 Broomes Island, Maryland 20615
 586-2050

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Winter 76-77

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 (301) 267-1438

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Maryland
COUNTY: Calvert
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

1. NAME			
COMMON: Christ Church AND OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: Broome Island Road; Maryland Route 264			
CITY OR TOWN: Port Republic		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: First	
STATE: Maryland	CODE: 24	COUNTY: Calvert	CODE: 009
3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work In progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Comments
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNER'S NAME: The Vestry of Christ Church Parish			
STREET AND NUMBER: Broome Island Road; Maryland Route 264			
CITY OR TOWN: Port Republic		STATE: Maryland	CODE: 24
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Calvert County Court House			
STREET AND NUMBER: Main Street		STATE: Maryland	CODE: 24
CITY OR TOWN: Prince Frederick			
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local			
DATE OF SURVEY:			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:	CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Maryland
COUNTY: Calvert
ENTRY NUMBER:
DATE:

7. DESCRIPTION

CT-40

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Christ Church was erected in 1772 and, as it stands today, retains its colonial character and form. Subsequent renovations in 1792, 1838, 1862, 1882, 1906, 1928-29, 1946-50, and 1968 make it an interesting illustration of rural ecclesiastical architectural development. This section will describe first the church as it is today. Then, stepping back into history, it will give a possible description of the church as it appeared originally and after each important modification.

The church today is of brick construction; its exterior is covered with stucco. It has a sharply peaked roof with gables at the front and back, or the east and west ends of the church. The gables have scroll brackets. The sides of the church have five bays; each bay has double stained glass round headed windows. There are buttresses at the corners of the building. At the front there is a small exterior vestibule or entryway and a small bellfry. At the northeast corner of the rear of the church there is a modern sacristy. The interior of the church is plastered and painted white. The nave has three aisles; the pews face the east end of the church where the altar is located except those at the front of the church on either side of the altar. Though rearranged, the pews are constructed with the materials of the early box pews; in fact, the doors of the original pews have been used as end pieces on the present ones, as witnessed by the existence in places of the old hardware and traces of it in others.

An earlier building, dating from 1672 or before, the exact location of which is unknown served the original parish and was probably simple log or frame construction. It was destroyed by fire in 1731 and replaced in 1735 by a brick church on the present site. It is not possible to describe this second church, but it had a separate vestry room built outside the main building, traces of the foundation of which can still be seen to the northeast of the present structure.

By 1769 this church was in need of repair and rebuilding, and construction of a new church on the same site using materials of the old was completed in 1772. Some of the old bricks from the 1735 building measure only 4" by 2" by 2". Perhaps because of the use of old bricks and bricks of differing sizes the exterior of the church was covered with a mortar slip or plaster. The 1772 church with modifications has remained in continuous use until today, a period of over 200 years.

The church was renovated in 1792 and again in 1838-39. From a description of the church before this latter renovation, it is clear that it had covered brick porches of the north and south sides and a center aisle running across the main axis of the church between the two porches. Entrance to the gallery, used exclusively by Blacks, was by steps outside

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

(See continuation sheet No. 1)

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian☐ 16th Century☒ 18th Century☐ 20th Century☐ 15th Century☐ 17th Century☐ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1772

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Aboriginal☐ Education☐ Political☐ Urban Planning☐ Prehistoric☐ Engineering☒ Religion/Phil.☐ Other (Specify)☐ Historic☐ Industry

osophy

☐ Agriculture☐ Invention☐ Science☒ Architecture☐ Landscape☐ Sculpture☐ Art

Architecture

☐ Social/Human-☐ Commerce☐ Literature

itarian

☐ Communications☐ Military☐ Theater☐ Conservation☐ Music☐ Transportation

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Christ Church is significant both historically and architecturally, as the mother Episcopal Church of Calvert County and its oldest continually worshipping congregation and as a fine country church which retains its colonial character.

1672 is the usual date given for the founding of the parish; the Parish Register, which is still in existence, has an entry for that year recording the birth of Mary Myles on April 24. The Reverend John Yeo preached at Christ Church during the 70's, and it is probable that he was the first pastor. Mary Taney, wife of the sheriff of Calvert County and one of the forebearers of Chief Justice Roger Brooke Taney, and Francis Mauldin who donated the land for the first church, were among the leading citizens of Calvert County who were instrumental in the founding of the new church.

The Act of Establishment of 1692 not only established the Church of England as a state-supported religion, but specifically mentioned Christ Church Parish and defined its boundaries. These included all of what is now Calvert County south of Hunting Creek. From the earliest days the parish was so large as to be unwieldy. A chapel of ease, Middleham Chapel, a National Register nomination had been established, it is thought, in 1684. The new Act also authorized the freeholders, 537 "taxables" out of a total estimated population of about 1,600, to name six vestrymen for the parish. The six, all from families of historic importance in the county, were Captain Thomas Claggett, Henry Farnley, Samuel Hollingsworth, Francis Malden (or Mauldin), John Manning and Richard Smith. Under the Act the vestry was empowered to collect 40 pounds of tobacco from each "taxable" in the parish, whatever his religion, to support the church. Parson Weems, the celebrated biographer of George Washington, preached at Christ Church, and the Reverend Jonathan Cay, whose tombstone lies near the eastern wall of the church, was rector from 1715 to 1735.

The first confirmation service at Christ Church took place on May 4, 1774. Bishop Thomas J. Claggett, the first Bishop of Maryland and the first Episcopal bishop ordained in the United States, whose father had been rector of Christ

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

(See continuation Sheet No. 1)

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) #1

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Calvert	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

Christ Church

7. DESCRIPTION, continued

the south wall. In 1838-39, the brick porches were torn down; and the door at the west end became the principal entrance to the church. The side doors were replaced by bays of windows. As a result of these changes, the old box pews were rearranged into their present alignment. A partition was placed across the nave at the west end creating a vestibule in the center with a room at either side.

Although repairs were carried out in 1862 and 1882, a major reconstruction was required in 1906 to repair and rebuild the walls which had been seriously damaged by years of rainfall weakening their foundations. Portions of the walls were rebuilt using old brick where possible, abutments were added at the corners, and gutters with deep concrete foundations were put down at the base of all four walls.

Following repairs in 1928-29 and 1946-50 the sacristy was added in 1968. Space was gained for a choir by removing the upper portion of the 1838-39 wall at the rear of the church. Modern stained glass windows have replaced the old clear glass.

8. SIGNIFICANCE, continued


Church in 1748-49, conducted the service. The church survived the War of 1812 without serious injury and was finally consecrated in 1842, almost 200 years after its founding. Christ Church celebrated its 300th Anniversary in 1972 and continues to be an important center of life in Calvert County.

The architectural significance derives from its evolution from the eighteenth century to the present. The Church incorporated the form and fabric associated with eighteenth century ecclesiastical tidewater architecture. The bell cot and buttresses are drawn from the Gothic Revival. The heavy scroll brackets, window treatment, and plaster covering of the brickwalls have nineteenth century sources, most particularly in domestic architecture; and the stained glass windows reflect the taste of the mid-twentieth century.



CT-40

0500463208

<p>1. STATE Maryland COUNTY Calvert County TOWN Port Republic CITY STREET NO. ORIGINAL OWNER Episcopal Parish ORIGINAL USE Church PRESENT OWNER Episcopal Parish PRESENT USE Church WALL CONSTRUCTION Flemish bond brick NO. OF STORIES 2 stuccoed over.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY CT-40</p> <hr/> <p>2. NAME Christ Church DATE OR PERIOD 1772 STYLE Altered Georgian Colonial ARCHITECT BUILDER</p> <hr/> <p>3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE</p>
<p>4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC Yes</p> <p style="margin-top: 20px;">This church was remodeled in 1906 into a nondescript Romanesque design. The fine brickwork was stuccoed over at this time and all the windows and the interior were changed. A water table and corner buttresses are visible through the stucco and appear to be old. The choir, or old slave gallery in the church, appear to be old, although the rest of the interior is Victorian in style.</p> <p style="margin-top: 20px;">This structure is beyond restoration and is only important as the historic site of one of the oldest parishes (1672) in in Calvert County.</p>	
<p>5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered Interior Exterior</p> <p style="margin-top: 20px; text-align: center; font-size: 1.2em;">Altered</p>	
<p>6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)</p> <p style="margin-top: 20px;">  </p>	<p>7. PHOTOGRAPH</p>
<p>8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.</p>	<p>9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER</p> <p style="margin-top: 20px; text-align: center;">Paul A. Brinkman</p> <p style="margin-top: 20px;">DATE OF RECORD July 10, 1967</p>

CT-40

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Fleming, John R. "The Story of Old Christ Church." 1972.
 Inventory of Church Archives of Maryland. Maryland Records
 Survey Project, 1940.
 Rightmyer, N.W. Maryland's Established Church. 1956.
Parishes of the Diocese of Maryland. 1960.
 Skirven, Percy S. First Parishes of the Province of Maryland.
 1942.
 (All sources are available at the Hall of Records, Annapolis,
 Maryland.)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY					OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		LATITUDE			LONGITUDE	
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees		Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°		'	"	38°	31'	43"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"				
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"				
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
 William M. Plummer, Rector

ORGANIZATION: Christ Church Parish DATE: April 3, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER:
Broome Island Road

CITY OR TOWN: Port Republic STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Name: Arthur C. Townsend

Title: State Historic Preservation Officer

Date: _____

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: _____

ATTEST:

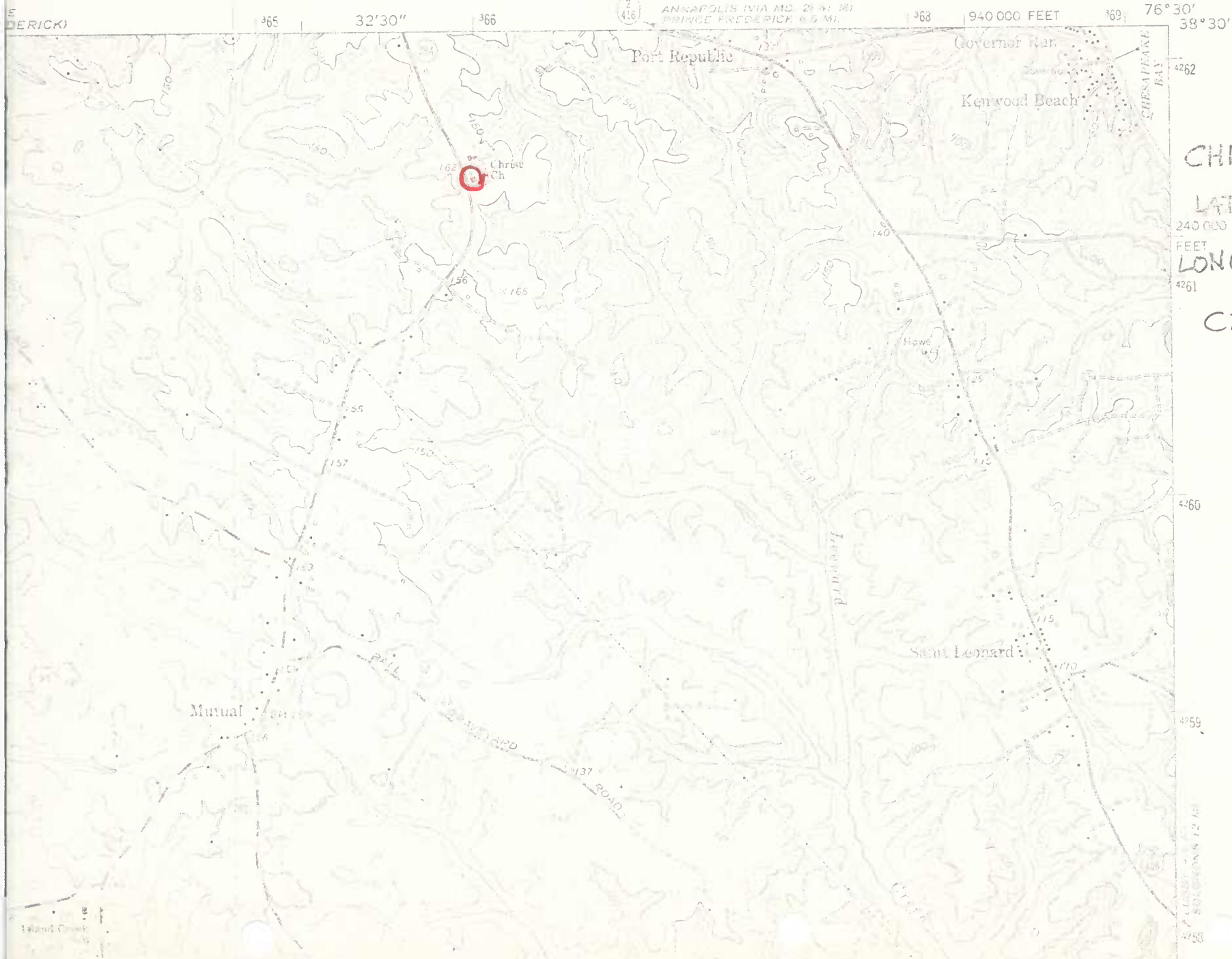
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: _____



BROOMES ISLAND QUADRANGLE
 MARYLAND
 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
 NE/4 LEONARDTOWN 15' QUADRANGLE

5761
 SHARP 151
 1:50,000



CHRIST CHURCH

LAT 28° 31' 43"

240 000

FEET
 LONG 76° 29' 22"

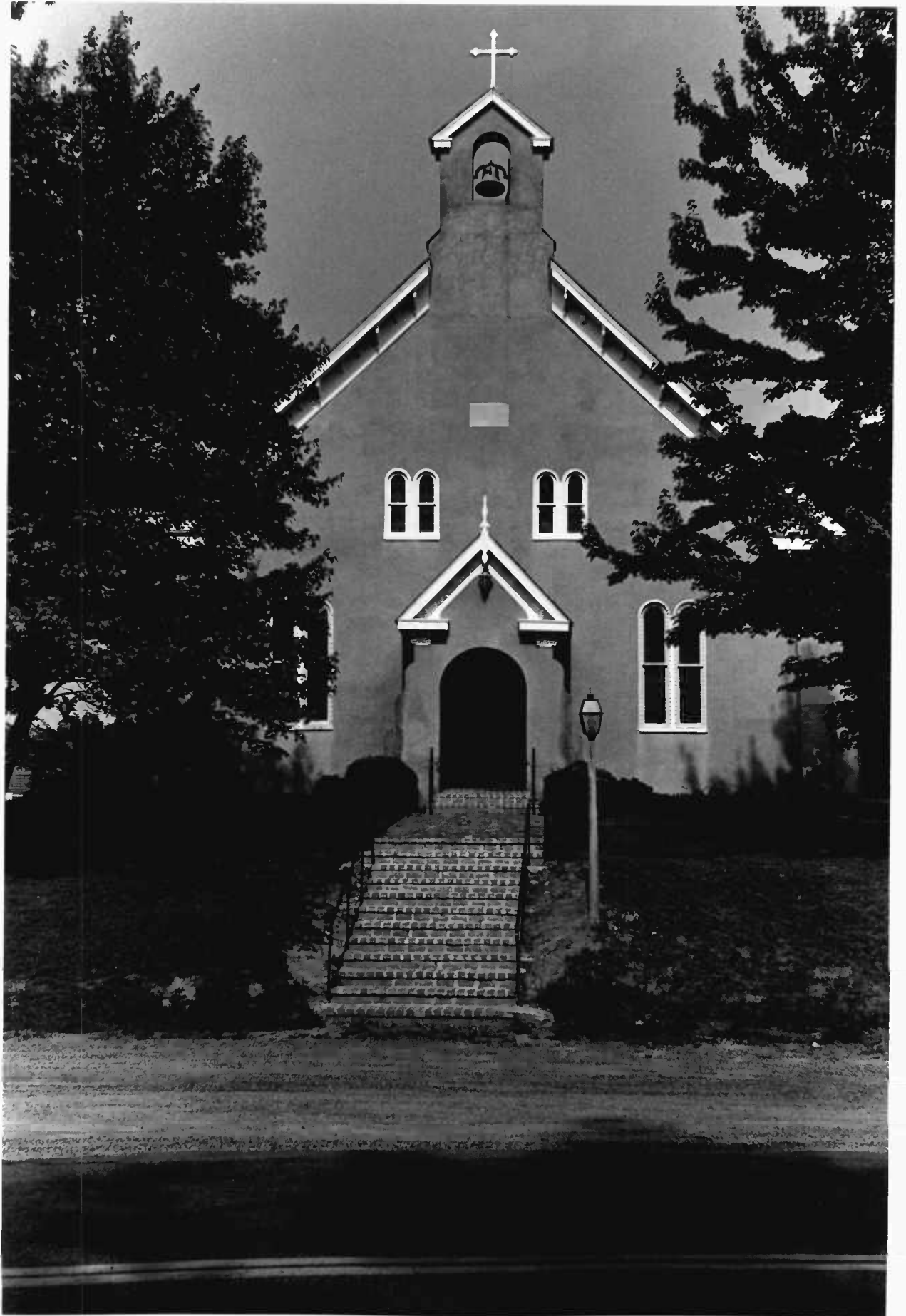
4261

CT-40

4260

4259

SP 151
 1:50,000





CHURCH CHURCH
DET-40



photographed by
DANIEL C. CHURCH





CLVP- 40

Christ Episcopal
Church
S.W.

Wayne Nield
Spring '77